



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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For immediate release**

1. DNR to improve construction permit process for animal confinements

**DNR TO IMPROVE CONSTRUCTION PERMIT PROCESS FOR
ANIMAL CONFINEMENTS**

DES MOINES – DNR staff, along with private consultants and livestock producers, are meeting this week in Des Moines to review and improve the DNR process for issuing construction permits for confinement feeding operations.

“Our goal this week is to make the process better for all those involved: producers, staff and consultants, while still protecting the environment,” said Dale Garner, chief of the DNR wildlife bureau and event team leader.

Participants are using a continuous process improvement model developed by industry to increase efficiency.

The DNR and private sector team members will examine the current permitting process in depth, looking for ways to reduce the processing time, decrease the number of hand-offs in the process and improve overall efficiency.

Garner said that team members have already agreed to revise the construction permit application form, designate a field office contact for permits and add a page to the DNR Web site just for counties.

“The new application form will be interactive and do some of the calculations for producers,” he added.

“Improvement in the process is particularly important this year since we’ve had an unusually large number of construction permit applications,” said Wayne Farrand, supervisor of wastewater construction permits.

The DNR has received 162 applications in the first six months of this year, more than the total of 122 applications received in 2004.

Construction permits are required for construction, modification or expansion of confinement feeding operations that use earthen basins for manure storage and those with more than 1,000 animal units that use concrete or steel storage.

For more information, contact Wayne Farrand at (515) 281-8877.